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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Gregory Bruce Gillooly et al.

Ser. No. 09/676,075 Group Art Unit: 2155

Filed: September 29, 2000 Examiner: Liang-che Alex Wang

Assignee: ABB Automation Inc.

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DEC 17 2003

For: Network Communications Coupler

Technology Center 2100

Docket No. E20000370 Cleveland, Ohio 44092

DECLARATION OF MARTIN HERMES

I, Martin Hermes, am a software development engineer employed by ABB Inc., have a Bachelors Degree in Computer Science from Ohio University and have 15 years of experience creating computer programs using the C++ programming language. I am not an inventor of the invention claimed in the above-identified application.

I have reviewed only claim 15 of the above-identified application as filed and not any other part of the application and state that I can understand the content of the claim even though the computer program recited therein does not include any comments. More specifically, the code recited therein is a definition of a template class that supports adding, checking and retrieving items in an array. Items in the array are added by specifying an integer key that can be used to synchronize information in various arrays.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements

were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Martin Herms

(Signature)

10 Dec 03

(Date)